

Application No.

10/526,460

Art Unit

2859

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For Attention of Yaritza Guadalupe McColl.

Dear Ms McColl,

I recieved "Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment
(37 CFR 1.121)", in the post today.

In response, please see 4 pages to follow.

entitled "Response to office Action" (2 pages)
and "Change of Claims" (2 pages)

If you have any questions please contact
me by return fax at the above Number or
on my mobile at 00353 83 3321279
email :- sdgready@eircom.net.

Kind Regards



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Response to Office Action :

Regarding the report - an Office Action in which all of the claims re my application number (10/526,460) are rejected by the Examiner, citing six Patent No's in particular for this decision, I have had time to review each of these in detail and believe that each is substantially different in its construction and use, from my device

I have made some notes on the claims which were cited and I have listed below the differences between these and my application.

I also believe that the claims in my application may, in hindsight have been too general and vague in their wording so I have cancelled original Claims 14-24 and have re-written new Claims 14-24.

Claim 14

You argue that this was anticipated by Goldman, however Goldman did not have a hinged 90 degree coupling, but instead an independent attachment to fit on a standard rigid end hook, and a hinged finger guard tab on the tape casing. So 90 degree coupling hinged at zero point on scale could not be anticipated by Goldman.

Even if lower section of Goldman did hinge it is not fixed at 90 degrees to upper section to fit into corner and upper and lower parts do not move each other into required position as tape is offered up to work.

Claim 15

With Goldman only upper part of coupling is hinged at free end of the elongate member. Upper and lower parts would have hinged independently IF lower part hinged.

Claim 16:

Only perpendicular to one another when the first section (60) is folded down and not in use. They are coplanar when (60) is in use but both perpendicular to the elongate member.

Claim 17:

Yes, but end hook is standard rigid 90 degree hook as on a standard tape which does not hinge. Anchor on Goldman does not form part of hinge.

Claim 18:

Goldman coupling is substantially flat with slight concave surface which hinges about the axis independently of hook 34. My invention comprises 90 degree coupling which forms equivalent of hook 34 when folded in one direction but in which upper and lower hinge together as one.

Claim 20:

Only the upper coupling is displaceable in Goldman tape. Also in my tape holes in the coupling correspond with the position of the rivets where required, to allow 90 degree rotation.

Claim 21:

This is a generic claim used by all

Claim 23:

Again, only the upper coupling is hinged with Goldman.

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